

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch

Commission Secretary
Federal Communication Commission
445 12th Street SW
CY-B402
Washington, DC 20554
Re: Proceeding 03-16

Dear Commission:

I strongly support SBC's application to compete for long distance customers in Michigan. Increasing competition will bring greater value to consumers and give them the same choices that residents in more than a dozen states already are enjoying. As a lifelong resident of Michigan and a former State Senator, I am well aware of the need for fair and full telecommunications competition.

Throughout my tenure serving the state of Michigan, I have taken a particular interest in consumer protection issues. Protecting consumer's interest means giving them the power to choose, the power to save money and the freedom to secure the best deals for their lifestyles. Granting SBC's long distance application will do exactly that.

The Michigan Public Service Commission did a good job of ensuring Michigan's local telephone market is open to competition. I supported SBC in its endeavors to enter the long distance market with the MPSC as a State Senator. As a former State Senator I wish to continue that support with the FCC.

I look forward to the FCC's approval of SBC's 271 application. The reason being is I look forward to having another choice when I want a long distance provider.

Sincerely;

Former State Senator
Phil Hoffman
2064 Little Drive
Horton, MI 49246